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Community News

Dinner To Honor Instigator of City Hall Restoration

Upvalley Bureau

Carbondale — A testimonial dinner in honor of David J. Baum, one of the organizers of the Committee to Restore Carbondale City Hall Inc., will be conducted Thursday beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Hotel Chellino.

Baum, an important figure in the historical preservation movement in Carbondale, initiated the idea of restoring the city's municipal building by suggesting the renovations in a 1981 editorial in the *Carbondale News*.

Baum, who previously served as managing editor of the weekly paper, asked: "Wouldn't it be nice if it (Carbondale City Hall) was restored to its former beauty and was a credit to the city, instead of an eyesore?"

In response to that editorial, S. Robert Powell of Carbondale, proposed to Baum that a restoration committee be formed in Carbondale. On Nov. 6, 1981, Baum and Powell met and formed the Committee to Restore Carbondale City Hall.

The committee was formed and in January of this year, the tower clock in City Hall was repaired. Currently, the organization is soliciting bids for roof and masonry repairs and cleaning and repainting of the building.

During the Fourth Annual Pioneer Days, Aug. 23 through 28, the committee will sponsor a series of educational and historical activities in Carbondale and in Carbondale City Hall.

The Committe to Restore Carbondale City Hall Inc. is a non-profit organization that was formed for four reasons:

1. To restore Carbondale City Hall;
2. To preserve and restore all those buildings in Carbondale and the surrounding area that are significant in local history and culture, and which, collectively constitute our irreplacable cultural and architectural inheritance;
3. To perpetuate, promote, and impart a knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of the history of Carbondale and the surrounding area to the community as a whole;
4. To put the history of the city to work in the service of the present and of the future for the betterment of the entire community.

To become a member of the committee, application forms may be obtained at the Carbondale Public Library or by writing to the Committee to Restore Carbondale City Hall Inc., P.O. Box 151, Carbondale.

Reservations for the testmonial dinner may be made by contacting Joseph Pascoe or Nan Loftus.